



NOXIOUS TIMES

A Quarterly Publication of the California Interagency Noxious and Invasive Plant Committee

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Cal-IPC 2007 Symposium and
Wildland Weed Mapping Field Course:
SEPTEMBER 20th – 22nd

Join nearly 400 weed workers for the California Invasive Plant Council's 16th Annual Symposium! This year we convene at the Bahia Resort Hotel on beautiful Mission Bay in San Diego, known as the most botanically-rich county in the lower 48 states. The Symposium brings together weed scientists, land managers; federal, state, and local agencies; stewardship volunteers, and concerned citizens. They will be sharing the latest information about invasive plant biology and ecology, control and management strategies, program design, tools and techniques, impacts on California's ecosystems, and other relevant topics. Continuing

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CDFA RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT FOR REGIONAL COORDINATION FOR THE CONTROL OF YELLOW STARHISTLE

BY WENDY WEST, UC DAVIS

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has recently secured funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for the "Stop-the-Spread of Yellow Starthistle into the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range through Prevention and Eradication" projects. Part of the NFWF Pulling Together Initiative, the \$50,000 grant will fund a regional coordinator, on-the-ground surveying and/or control efforts, educational outreach, and establishment of Weed Free Zones (WFZ) along the yellow starthistle "stop-the-spread" eastern leading edge line. The main objective of the project is to improve the coordination and cooperation in yellow starthistle (YST) control throughout the Sierra Nevada foothills over a fourteen county region, which extends from Plumas to Kern counties.

continued on page 4...

CINIPC Signatory Agencies and Representatives

California Agricultural Commissioners
and Sealers Association
George Milovich (760) 873-7860
California Department of Food and Agriculture
Robert Leavitt (916) 651-0582
Steve Schoenig (916) 654-0768
California Department of Transportation
Linda Hamil (916) 654-5784
California Resources Agency
Susan Ellis (916) 445-9992
California State Parks
Cynthia Royce (916) 653-9083
Department of the Army, U.S. Corps of Engineers,
South Pacific Division
Phil Turner (415) 977-8058
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dave Dyer (209) 727-5319
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Diana Brink (916) 978-4645
John Willoughby (916) 978-4638
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Bureau of Reclamation
Michael Nepstad (916) 978-5041
U.S. Department of Interior,
Fish and Wildlife Service
Louanne McMartin (209) 946-6400 x 337
U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service
Bobbi Simpson (415) 464-5294

Stakeholders

California Association of Nurserymen
and Garden Centers
Bob Falconer (800) 748-6214 (ext. 17)
California Cattlemen's Association
Susan LeGrand (916) 444-0845
California Invasive Plant Council
Doug Johnson (510) 843-3902
California Native Plant Society
Bob Case (925) 689-6528
Don Mayall (650) 856-7579
The Nature Conservancy
John Randall (530) 754-8890
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Agricultural Research Service
Ray Carruthers (510) 559-5800
Joe Balciunas (510) 559-5975
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Joe DiTomaso (530) 754-8715

The California Interagency Noxious & Invasive Plant Committee

As public awareness of the impacts of invasive weeds accelerated during the late 1980s and into the 1990s, a need for California to better coordinate and share information about past, present, and future weed activities became increasingly evident. Weed activities include – but are not limited to – management, eradication, detection, education, and mapping. County, State, and Federal agencies, as well as non-governmental representatives recognized the need for cooperation and coordination and entered into a Memorandum of Understanding from 1995–1997. The mission of the California Interagency Noxious & Invasive Plant Committee is to facilitate, promote, and coordinate the establishment of an Integrated Pest Management partnership between public and private land managers. The goal is to eradicate and control noxious weeds on federal and state lands and on private lands adjacent to public lands.

Currently, CINIPC includes State and Federal signatory agencies and representatives, as well as many other stakeholder groups. The first CINIPC Chairperson was Anne Knox with the Bureau of Land Management from 1995–1997. Louanne McMartin with the U.S. Department of Fish & Wildlife Services is currently the CINIPC Chairperson.

Noxious Times is a publication of the **California Interagency Noxious and Invasive Plant Committee (CINIPC)**.

The Noxious Times newsletter intends to help the committee achieve its goals of coordination and exchange of information by providing land managers throughout the state with information on weed control efforts, news, and successes.

Noxious Times is published quarterly by staff of the Integrated Pest Control Branch at the California Department of Food and Agriculture. We welcome submissions for our upcoming issues. Please send to: CA Department of Food and Agriculture, ATTN: Noxious Times, 1220 N Street, Room A-357, Sacramento, CA 95814 or e-mail: noxistimes@cdfa.ca.gov.

If you have a colleague whose name you would like to add to our mailing list, please send mailing information to the address above.

Noxious Times Editorial Staff: Steve Schoenig, Deborah Seiler, Gina Darn, and Dan Mitchell. Text written by staff unless otherwise noted.

Education credits from the Department of Pesticide Regulation are available, including 2 hrs of Laws and Regulations.

The Symposium includes presentations, research posters, workshops and discussion groups, exhibitors and field trips. Along with the extensive coverage of weed ecology and control, the 2007 program will feature special sessions on the theme "Conservation and Communication: The Human Dimension of Invasive Plant Management." These speakers will describe how to build lasting coalitions and improve communications strategies related to invasive plants. Our closing session will cover hot topics such as the use of invasive plants for biofuel crops, new federal policies, and Dr. Joe DiTomaso's ever-popular Weed Alerts. Saturday's optional field trips visit interesting local weed management

projects.

We also introduce our new Wildland Weed Mapping Field Course on September 19, the day before the Symposium. Learn how to incorporate GPS data collection and GIS data processing into your weed management program. The course will be taught by a team of weed mappers versed in a range of techniques, from recreational-grade GPS units to high-end tablet PCs.

We invite agencies and other organizations to participate as Symposium sponsors. Sponsors receive free registration and exhibit space as well as other benefits.

All information on the Symposium and Mapping Field Course can be found at www.cal-ipc.org. Early registration ends August 20. See you in San Diego!



A full audience listens in at the 2006 Cal-IPC Symposium

image courtesy of Cal-IPC

SAVE THE DATE !!!

OCTOBER 15th & 16th

9th Annual Weed Management
Area Statewide Meeting

Heidrich Agricultural
History Center

Woodland, CA

12 noon – 3:30 pm

Weed workers from across the state will meet for two days of BBQ, workshops, lectures, and collaboration on how to run and fund region-wide weed management projects.

This year's topics will include:

- Outreach
- New Control Methods
- Information on Funding
- Environmental Compliance
- Group Management
- Strategic Planning
- Weed Control Presentation by Joseph DiTomaso (UC Davis)

continued from front page 1...

CDFA file photo



Yellow Starthistle

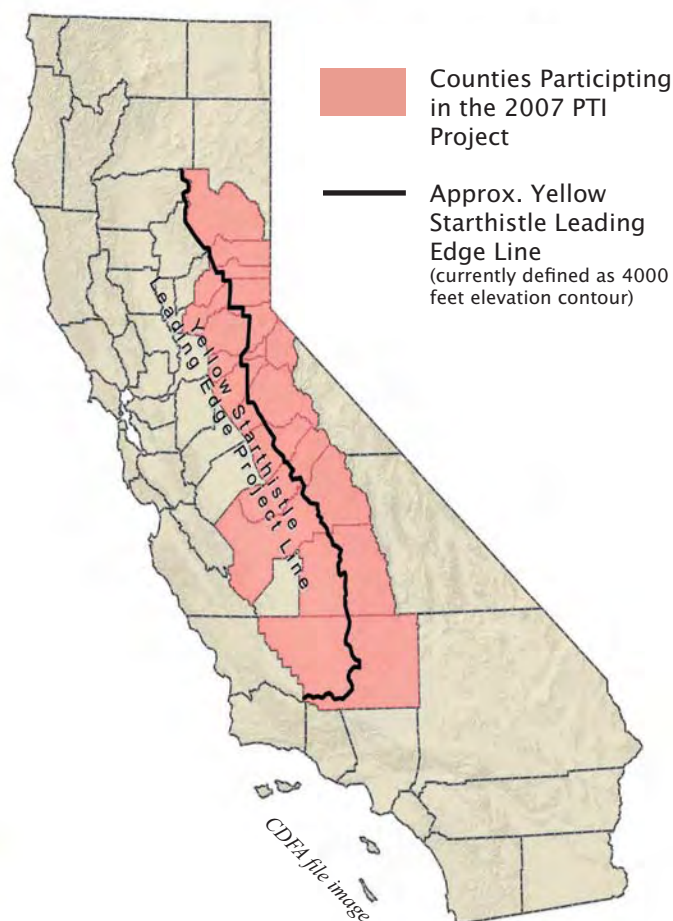
University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Program Representative Wendy West will begin coordination of the project this fall. The first task will be to gather current yellow starthistle distribution data into the CDFA Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database to identify an initial stop-the-spread line in the Sierra Nevada foothills. A series of in-depth meetings with Weed Management Areas (WMA) will be conducted, to adjust this line based on their knowledge of the region. Concurrently, populations within each county will be identified and prioritized for control and/or eradication. Barriers that might hinder implementation of cooperative control projects will also be identified. The project coordinator will work with WMA members to overcome these barriers, by facilitating land manager involvement and coordinating training and educational outreach needs. WMA members will then write action plans for the control of leading-edge populations and eradication of outlier infestations. An advisory committee at CDFA will evaluate and prioritize the action plans and disperse NFWF funds for the on-the-ground projects, to be completed in spring/summer 2008 by the WMA partners. The coordinator will facilitate action plan implementation by networking stakeholders, including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Once established, the long-term success of the yellow starthistle stop-the-spread line will depend on education, early detection, and rapid response. A collaborative effort will be initiated with Caltrans, county public works, and public land managers to establish Weed Free Zones along roads and trails within the region. These zones will include signs and education materials on the identification and control of yellow starthistle, plus information on steps to prevent the spread of this invader. This strategy will educate the public and will increase the

likelihood of early detection and quick eradication of infestations found within the WFZs.

This project will be one of the first in California to address invasive species in a coordinated manner over a large region. The intention of CDFA and UCCE is to use this project as a case study for the coordinated control of yellow starthistle in other regions of the state as well as for the control of other widespread invaders including perennial pepperweed, skeletonweed, and numerous *Centaurea* species. This project will also serve as a pilot for the Western States Regional Yellow Starthistle Control Project currently being spearheaded by the Western Weed Coordination Committee.

Yellow Starthistle Stop-the-Spread Leading Edge Line



Two New “Don’t Plant a Pest!” Brochures Published

BY ELIZABETH BRUSATI, CAL-IPC

“Don’t Plant a Pest!” brochures, which describe alternatives to invasive ornamental plants, are spreading faster than the weeds. Two new entries in the series have recently been published, with the cooperation of horticulture experts.

Experts in the region produced the new Sierra Foothills version, which describes alternatives to invasive groundcovers, grasses, and shrubs. To order this brochure, contact Cal-IPC at the address below.



The new statewide Aquatic Plants brochure is aimed at the growing interest in water gardening. It describes alternatives to pond margin and bog plants, floating and rooting emergent species, and submerged plants. Thanks to funding from CDFA, Cal-IPC is distributing this brochure at no charge.

We would especially like to distribute the Aquatic Plants brochure to agencies and other organizations that manage waterways in California. Please contact Elizabeth Brusati at edbrusati@cal-ipc.org.

Other “Don’t Plant a Pest!” brochures cover the San Francisco Bay Area, Central Valley, Central Coast, Lake Tahoe Basin, and Southern California, with a statewide brochure on Trees also available. The Southern California brochure is also available in Spanish. To order these and other Cal-IPC publications, visit our website at www.cal-ipc.org/shop or call 510-843-3902.



New website offers garden-safe alternatives to invasive plants

BY DEBORAH SEILER, CDFA



More than half of California’s invasive plants got their start as seemingly benign and beautiful additions to the created landscape. With thousands of species to choose from and millions of dollars on the line

with each new super weed, what’s a conscientious green thumb to do? PlantRight, a voluntary partnership headed under the California Horticultural Invasives Prevention committee (Cal-HIP), has launched a website to help the state’s landscapers, horticulturalists, and home gardeners find safe alternatives to known invaders.

The website, found at www.plantright.org, provides profiles on invasive plants by growing region that are available in the horticultural trade. Another quick click will take you to a list of profiles for recommended non-invasive alternatives. Other information on the website

includes an overview definition of invasive species and their costs, tips to support non-invasive horticulture, and invasive plant research underway that PlantRight promotes. A “library” lists sources of peer-reviewed literature to learn more about horticulture industry and invasive plants, economics of invasive weeds, invasion biology, and weed risk assessment.

Ultimately, the PlantRight website hopes that by making beautiful and weed-free gardening as easy as clicking through their website, they will encourage others to make responsible choices. As their website states, “We can be proactive and implement practical solutions, rather than wait for regulations.”

What You Can Do:

1. Phase out invasive plant species in your business
2. Plant and promote beautiful non-invasive alternatives
3. Share your success stories on our testimonials page
4. Read and follow the national voluntary codes of conduct to prevent horticultural invasions.

[Suggested by PlantRight]



RESOURCES RESOURCES RESOURCES

Inventory and Survey Methods for Nonindigenous Plant Species

Edited by Lisa J. Rew and Monica L. Pokorny

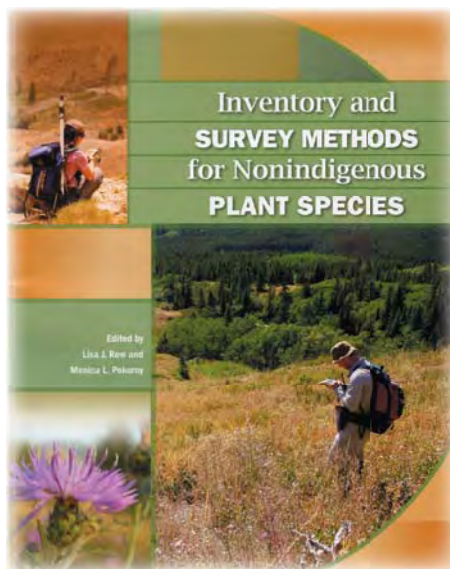
Printed by Montana State University Extension and Center for Invasive Plant Management

Review by Colleen Murphy-Vierra

This collection of inventory and survey methods is a useful starting point for land management organizations that want to start or improve their collection of invasive species data. The book gives several examples of currently used inventory and survey methods for data collection, ranging from remote sensing to tiered sampling. A scientific approach is taken to evaluate each inventory and survey method. Method overviews are provided with enough detail to determine if the method would be appropriate for use by your organization. This book also gives examples of how the data can be displayed for management decisions.

Readers should take caution that some of the methods suggested require extensive costs and a high level of expertise. The method of "Mapping and Remote Sensing for Detection of Nonindigenous

Species" requires personnel that are trained in remote sensing software and interpolation, as well as a large purchase for the



CDFA file image

software. "Digital Aerial Sketch-Mapping for Early Detection" requires an aircraft and expensive software, but may still be the best

method in areas not accessible for collecting data by conventional methods. The "Tiered Sampling Method" and "Stratified Random Sampling Method" require less expense and are good inventory methods to get a general idea of the invasive species that exist in an area.

Overall, this is a great book for anyone interested in the collection of data for invasive species. Its scientific approach to currently used methods is ideal for allowing readers to select what techniques and methods best suit their organization. This book also gives the reader an idea about some of the data that needs to be collected for an effective inventory/survey.

For more information contact the Center for Invasive Plant Management at weedcenter.org



Cal-IPC Weed Mapping Field Course

September 19, 2007
Mission Trails Regional Park
San Diego, CA

Learn the basics of data collection, data processing, and map creation, taught by weed workers from around the state. Learn more about the course and register at www.cal-ipc.org.



illustrations by Deborah Seiler



Toolbox: Software for Weeds



TOOLBOX highlights new tools that might integrate well into local weed management tool boxes. Noxious Times does not specifically endorse tools featured, but rather strives to provide baseline data that will lend itself to further examination and research on the part of the user.

WIMS - Weed Information Management System

Now Available to Everyone

By Mandy Tu, TNC

The Nature Conservancy's Weed Information Management System (WIMS) is a Microsoft Access-based relational database application that is designed to assist natural resource managers in handling their weed data. WIMS keeps track of three types of data records: weed occurrences (GPS point locations), assessments (size and status of the weed infestation to facilitate monitoring over time), and any and all management treatments (chemical, manual & mechanical, etc.) applied to those weed infestations. Once data are entered into the database, data can be easily exchanged between multiple users, exported in NAWMA (North American Weed Management Association) standards, written to shapefiles for mapping in any standard GIS program, and a wide variety of reports can also be easily generated. Additionally, WIMS can be used on a handheld unit with a GPS unit to capture data in the field. WIMS is available for everyone to use for free, and we hope that by using WIMS, you can make better management decisions and will be motivated to share your data with others.

<http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/wims.html>



image by
Mandy Tu

EKO System

Weed Tracking Online

By Tracy Bosen, Interlocking Software

EKO System is a new Web-based application that allows weed managers to easily document (from home, office or field), all aspects of weed management. Features include easy-to-use GIS mapping capabilities (including aerial and topo maps), documentation storage (including photos), tracking treatment and site visits, survey data, and ability to view/manage weeds on scales from very small to very large areas. Education and Outreach information can be easily made available to the public while sensitive and/or private information is kept secure and protected.

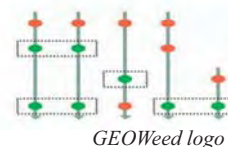
EKO System also has report-generating capabilities, allowing weed managers to query cumulative or individual locations, showing acres or square feet treated by jurisdictional boundaries, property owners, amount of herbicide applied, and costs associated with mileage, treatment, equipment, etc. The ability to share information with adjacent counties and states is also available.

For more information, please contact Tracy Bosen (206) 919-0515 or view our website: www.eko-system.us

GEO Weed

Super-WIMS

By Zhahai Stewart
Sonoma Ecology Center



GEOWeed logo

GeoWeed is a geospatially enabled weed management software package developed by the Sonoma Ecology Center. Originally derived from The Nature Conservancy's WIMS software package, GeoWeed offers a number of enhancements and is a free and open source software. GeoWeed is comprised of two components, a desktop component (using MS Office 2003) and a field component (using ESRI ArcPad on a handheld PDA). Data collected in the field is uploaded to the desktop database where it can be queried and analyzed. It can track the point and polygon location and size of weed patches over time, as well as treatment history (including methods, quantities of pesticides applied, etc). It also tracks labor; with selectable granularity (crews can contain named individuals, paid or volunteer organizations or departments). In addition to single-species patches (per WIMS), it can record multi-species area surveys, including absence data. It also supports geolocated photographs associated with patches, surveys, and treatments.

For more info go to our website at: <http://geoweed.org>



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 19, 2007

Cal-IPC Weed Mapping Field Course

Mission Trails Regional Park, San Diego, CA

www.cal-ipc.org

September 20-22, 2007

16th Annual Cal-IPC Symposium

Bahia Resort, San Diego, CA

www.cal-ipc.org

September 24-27, 2007

North American Weed Management Assn.

2007 NAWMA Annual Conference

Suncoast Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

www.nawma.org

September, 24-26, 2007

Weed Research and Information Center

2007 Weed Science School

University of California, Davis

<http://wric.ucdavis.edu>

October 15 & 16, 2007

9th Annual Weed Management Area

Statewide Meeting

Heidrich Ag. History Center

Woodland, CA

January 28-30, 2007

California Weed Science Society

60th Annual CWSS Conference

Portola Plaza Hotel

Monterey, CA

www.cwss.org

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